DICTIONARY OF COMPUTERS, INFORMATION PROCESSING, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

2ND EDITION

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system via telephone lines or other communications lines.

data-communication terminal: see *data terminal.*

data compaction: any method for encoding data to reduce the storage it requires. see also *null suppression.*

data compression: a technique that saves storage space by eliminating gaps, empty fields, redundancies, or unnecessary data to shorten the length of records or blocks.

data concentrator: see *concentrator.*

data conferencing network: a device that enables a predetermined group of users to operate such that if any one user transmits a message it will be received by all others in the group.

data connection: the interconnection of two data-terminal equipments (DTEs) by means of switched tandem data circuits. (E)

data connector: a device which permits connection of customer-owned modems or data sets to the regular telephone network. It limits the power applied to the line and provides network control and signaling functions.

data constant: see *figurative constant.*

data contamination: synonym for *data corruption.*

data control: the organization of data entering or leaving the system.

data control block (DCB): a control block used by access method routines in storing and retrieving data.

data conversion: the process of changing data from one form or representation to another.

data conversion line: the channel utilized in transferring data elements between data banks.

data converter: a device whose purpose is to convert data. (A) (B)

data corruption: a deliberate or accidental violation of data integrity. syn-

onymous with *data contamination.* (E)

data declaration: a nonexecutable statement that describes the characteristics of the data to be operated upon; for example, PICTURE clause, DIMENSION. (E)

data-declaration statement: synonym for *data declaration.* (E)

data definition (DD): a program statement that describes the features of, specifies relationships of, or establishes context of data. (A)

data-definition name (ddname): the name of a data-definition (DD) statement that corresponds to a data-control block that contains the same name.

data-definition (DD) statement: a job control statement that describes a data set associated with a particular job step.

data delay: measured time concerned in the waiting period for information before another process can be performed.

data delimiter: synonymous with *delimiter.*

data density: on magnetic tape, the number of bytes of data per inch (bpi).

data-description entry: in COBOL, an entry in the data division that is used to describe the characteristics of a data item. It consists of a level number, followed by an optional data name, followed by data clauses that fully describe the format the data will take. An elementary data-description entry (or item) cannot logically be subdivided further. A group data-description entry (or item) is made up of a number of related group items, elementary items, or both.

data-description language (DDL): a language that provides a facility for describing data and their relationships in a data base. (E)